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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings.

- 1. (WITHDRAWN) A bearing compartment comprising:
- a housing comprising a duct;
- a scavenge scoop within said housing, said scavenge scoop in communication with a first portion of said duct; and
- a settling area within said housing adjacent said scavenge scoop, said settling area in communication with a second portion of said duct
- 2. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, further comprising a partition located at least partially within said duct.
- 3. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 2, wherein said scavenge scoop forms said partition.
- 4 (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 2, wherein said partition bifurcates said duct.
- 5. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, wherein said settling area is downstream of said scavenge scoop relative to a rotational direction defined about an axis or rotation.
- 6. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, wherein said duct is generally parallel to said axis of rotation.
- 7. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, wherein said duct communicates with an oil sump.

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- 8. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, further comprising a shield at least partially covering said settling area.
- 9. (WITHDRAWN) The bearing compartment as recited in claim 1, further comprising a shield at least partially covering said settling area, said shield comprising a plurality of apertures therethrough.
- 10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An oil scavenge system for a gas turbine engine comprising:
 - a housing defined about an axis of rotation, said housing comprising a duct;
 - a scavenge scoop within said housing, said scavenge scoop in communication with a first portion of said duct, said scavenge scoop comprising a partition which forms said first portion of said duct;
 - a settling area within said housing adjacent said scavenge scoop, said settling area in communication with a second portion of said duct opposite said partition; and a shield at least partially covering said settling area.
- 11. (ORIGINAL) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said housing is located within a mid bearing compartment of a gas turbine engine.
- 12. (ORIGINAL) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said settling area is downstream of said scavenge scoop relative to a rotational direction defined about said axis or rotation.
- 13. (ORIGINAL) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said duct is generally parallel to said axis of rotation.
- 14. (ORIGINAL) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said duct is located at bottom dead center of said housing.

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15. (ORIGINAL) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said axis of rotation comprises a centerline of said gas turbine engine.

- 16. (ORIGINAL) A method of scavenging oil within a gas turbine engine comprising the steps of:
 - (1) collecting an air-oil mixture within a scavenge scoop;
- (2) communicating the air-oil mixture from the scavenige scoop to a first portion of a duct;
- (3) collecting settled air-oil mixture in a settling area adjacent the scavenge scoop the settling area downstream of the scavenge scoop relative to a rotational direction defined about an engine centerline; and
- (4) communicating the air-oil mixture from the settling area to a second portion of the duct.
 - 17. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of: shielding the settling area from interfacial shear.
 - 18. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of: providing flow apertures to the settling area.
 - 19. (NEW) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, further comprising a shield at least partially covering said settling area.
- 20. (NEW) The oil scavenge system as recited in claim 10, wherein said wherein said housing is a gas turbine engine housing portion.